

Village of Beulah  
7228 Commercial St.  
P.O. Box 326  
Beulah, MI 49617  
231-882-4451

The Village of Beulah is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

June 12, 2019

Dear Beulah Village Property Owners and Residents,

In 2012, the Michigan Legislature passed the Fireworks Safety Act of 2012. Since that law was passed, many concerns have been expressed by residents and others regarding the noise level and safety issues caused by the substantially more powerful consumer fireworks that it permitted. Shortly after the 2012 law was passed, the Beulah Village Council passed a local ordinance prohibiting the discharge of any fireworks on Village property at any time, and limiting their discharge from private property within the Village to the minimum days and hours specified in the legislation.

Last Fall, the Michigan Legislature amended the Fireworks Safety Act of 2012 by modifying and reducing the minimum days and hours that discharge of consumer fireworks must be permitted. It also required that if a municipality had an ordinance regulating the discharge of fireworks, it must include a civil fine of \$1,000 for each violation of the ordinance. Furthermore, it must specify that one half of the fine be remitted to the local law enforcement agency responsible for enforcing the ordinance.

On May 9, 2019 the Beulah Village Council passed Ordinance No. 2019-3, Noise Control Ordinance – Fireworks and Unlawful Discharge. That Ordinance became effective on May 29, 2019. The full ordinance was published in the *Benzie County Record Patriot* on June 5, 2019 and posted at the Village Office and on the Village of Beulah website. We have included below, a relevant excerpt of the Ordinance:

**Section D. Consumer Fireworks:**

No person shall ignite, discharge, or use Consumer Fireworks within the Village. This prohibition shall not apply to igniting, discharging, or using Consumer Fireworks on the following days after 11:00 a.m. on Private Property:

- a. December 31 until 1 am on January 1.
- b. The Saturday and Sunday immediately preceding Memorial Day until 11:45 p.m. on each of those days.
- c. June 29 to July 4 until 11:45 p.m. on each of those days.
- d. July 5, if that date is a Friday or Saturday, until 11:45 p.m.
- e. The Saturday and Sunday immediately preceding Labor Day until 11:45 p.m. on each of those days.

A person who violates this subsection 2.D shall be responsible for a civil infraction, the sanction for which shall be a civil fine of \$1,000.00 for each violation of the ordinance, \$500.00 of which shall be remitted by the Village to the Benzie County Sheriff Department for enforcement of the ordinance.

(over please)

We are asking that you share this information with your family, friends and renters, especially as we enter the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday week. We all know that our Village is a popular location for celebrating the holidays. Our intent with this Ordinance is to assure that we may all celebrate safely and with consideration for others. Thank you!

Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dan Hook". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Regards,".

Dan Hook  
Law and Finance Chairperson